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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

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JAN 29 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In re Application of:

John L. BOWERS

Application No. 09/986,346

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID  
VALVE

Parent Appl. Art Unit: 3753

Parent Appl. Examiner: J. Rivell

Atty Docket: P64258US2

J. J. J. J.  
#7  
6/10/2002

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant and/or his attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56. No translation is provided for document AL, as no translation is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c). See MPEP 609A(2).

A copy of document CE is submitted herewith. Copies of the other documents are not being submitted, as these documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the parent application. See 37 CFR 1.98(d) and MPEP 609A(2).

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Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following United States patent applications:

U.S. Serial No. 09/440,619, Japuntich et al., filed on November 15, 1999, entitled "Filtering Face Mask That Has A New Exhalation Valve," which is a division of U.S. Serial No. 08/240,877, filed on May 11, 1994, which is a division of U.S. Serial No. 07/981,244, filed on November 25, 1992, now U.S. Patent No. 5,325,892, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 07/891,298, filed on May 29, 1992, now abandoned.

*480*  
*App. (T.D?)*  
*CT/606 08/1449*

Since the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits or within three months of filing, no fee is required. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 which may be required for consideration of this paper; or credit and overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1358. A duplicate copy is attached for this purpose.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or as an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

Applicant does not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application.

### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and to similarly indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the attached documents have been considered.


If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

Date: January 23, 2002

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